

notified of the tragedy within minutes of its occurrence, and with hesitation she enacted an emergency plan and led the charge to assist the war-torn school.

Betty is a tribute to nurses everywhere. Colleagues describe Betty as a quite nurse who handles herself with grace. Her enthusiasm to her work and her compassion is deserving of far more than this Congressional tribute. Ultimately, the highest compliment that she can ever receive is the trust and love of her patients and the community. That, Mr. Speaker, is exactly what she has earned.

Betty is an inspiration for us all and for all these reasons she is deserving of this honor. It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Betty for her dedication and service to her community over the years. She has worked hard for her community and state, giving mightily of herself to her neighbors.

For that, Betty, we are all profoundly grateful.

SAFER AMERICA FOR EVERYONE'S CHILDREN ACT (SAFE CHILDREN ACT), H.R. 255

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 255, the Safer America for Everyone's Children Act, or Safe Children Act. The Safe Children Act is a nine-point program which will reward those States and communities who work to keep guns out of the hands of children, promote opportunities for students, and support programs which keep our kids off the streets and away from drugs. By supporting communities who take the initiative to combat school violence, we are encouraging parents and educators to work together to make the decisions which will effectively help our children and provide an appropriate and common sense solution.

The Safe Children Act creates new safe communities and safe States block grants which can be used to supplement, expand, or enforce programs which combat school violence. To be eligible for the new grants, "safe communities" will have to offer a bi-annual gun buyback program, provide working programs to create safe and drug-free schools, and offer after-school programs, which focus on the social, physical, emotional, moral, and cognitive well-being of students. "Safe States" will have to enact legislation to require individuals to be 21 years old to purchase a handgun, require safety locks to be sold with firearms at the time of sale, and create a public-private partnership to support organizations and municipalities which promote safe schools and gun safety.

Furthermore, the Safe Children Act creates a school counseling demonstration program to award grants to schools to establish or expand school psychological counseling programs, offering individual schools the opportunity and funding necessary to have on-site or on-contract child psychologists to assist troubled students. Additionally, the measure promotes the safety of law enforcement personnel by pro-

hibiting the importation of large capacity ammunition feeding devices and exempts qualified law enforcement officers and retired officers from state laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed firearms.

Mr. Speaker, I have been meeting with parents, teachers, students, and law enforcement officials, to discuss the root of the problems in our Nation's schools to find a resolution. The Safe Children Act is an important first step, because it promotes and supports community initiatives and inclusion.

It is obvious that no one solution exists for solving the increase in school shootings, but it is imperative that we all dedicate ourselves to working together within our families and communities to stop the violence among our youth.

The real solution to combating school violence will not be found in the Halls of Congress, rather in our schools, homes, and communities throughout our Nation. The Safe Children Act will reward those communities which work together to provide a safer America for everyone's children.

THE CONSUMER ONLINE PRIVACY AND DISCLOSURE ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, unprecedented number of American consumers are flocking to the Internet to transact business and tap the nearly limitless informational databases. The explosion in Internet usage, however, is not without problems. Unlike shopping in a mall or browsing through a library where individuals travel anonymously through the merchandise racks and library stacks, the Internet is becoming less and less anonymous. Direct marketing firms are now trying to identify individuals as they surf the web to isolate where they visit and what they are viewing.

This new data collection practice is most often described as Internet profiling. Internet profiling describes the practice of joining a consumer's personal information with his or her Internet viewing habits. To develop this detailed profile a "persistent cookie" must be attached to a consumer's cookie as they move through a web site. A persistent cookie is a small text file copied for varying lengths of time to consumers' computers to track their movements while online.

My legislation will prohibit Internet Service Providers (ISP) and web site operators from allowing third parties to attach these persistent cookies to a consumer's computer without his or her knowledge and consent. In addition, the legislation requires the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to promulgate rules specifying that all operators of a Web site or online service provide a clear and conspicuous notice of their privacy policy in clear, non-legalistic terms. The bill also requires a Web site or online service to provide consumers with an option to prevent the use of their personal information for any activity other than the transaction. Finally, the privacy policy must clearly

state how any collected information will be shared or transferred to an external company or third party.

While my legislation gives consumers more information and control over how they use the Internet, I have also included a provision that will hold e-commerce companies to their privacy policies. With the insolvency of many dot-com companies, often the only tangible asset left to satisfy creditors is a consumers transaction and personal information.

The global reach of the Internet is beneficial only so long as the information traveling through cyberspace remains private. Consumers will pull back from this burgeoning information and commerce tool if they believe it is being used to invade their privacy. While I understand that there are many differing approaches to the issues of Internet privacy, I believe this legislation addresses a critical component of the Internet privacy debate and I look forward to moving it in the 107th Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARGUERITE S. BABER, ANNUAL HONOREE OF IRELAND'S 32

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marguerite S. Baber, one of three honorees at the annual dinner-dance hosted by Ireland's 32 on January 19, 2001. Ms. Baber will be honored for her accomplishments and for her continued dedication to improving the quality of life for the residents of Bayonne, New Jersey.

Marguerite Baber's compassion and dedication to her community and to children are the cornerstone of the Simpson-Baber Foundation for the Autistic, which she founded. The Foundation is a non-profit charity that raises funds for the educational, recreational, and social needs of autistic children and other developmentally disabled children in the Bayonne community. The Foundation works closely with the Bayonne Public Schools to provide for the special education needs of public school students, and sponsors numerous social events for autistic children and their families.

In addition, Ms. Baber is the former director of Financial Services at the Katherine Gibbs School in Montclair; and she served as trustee and treasurer of the Bayonne Healthcare foundation, director of the Bayonne Chamber of Commerce, and director of the Bayonne Town Center. Currently, Ms. Baber is pursuing her Ph.D. in school business administration at Seton Hall University.

Ms. Baber is also co-owner of Carousel Collections, a children's clothing store. She is married to Superior Court Judge Mark A. Baber, and is the mother of three children: James (12), Stephen (10), and Marguerite (9).

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Marguerite S. Baber for her compassionate and committed service to the community of Bayonne, New Jersey.

TRIBUTE TO DONNA GARNETT,
OUTSTANDING COLORADO WOMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate a remarkable woman, Donna Garnett, for her remarkable devotion to her community. Over the last twenty-five years, Donna has lived in Colorado and has worked to improve the quality of life for its children. Through her volunteer work, Donna has helped hundreds of children in our State. Her continued devotion to the underprivileged children of Colorado has earned her the honor of being named Outstanding Colorado Woman. Donna's contributions to the citizens of Colorado are great in number and deserve the recognition of this body.

Donna is an extraordinary citizen. She has not only devoted her life to helping underprivileged children in Colorado, but she has also been a wonderful mother of three—Austin, 22, and twins, Max and Alexis, who just turned six. In addition to being an advocate for underprivileged children, Donna has also had an outstanding professional career. Over the past twenty-five years, Donna has had a parade of professional accomplishments: she has been a faculty member at University of Colorado-Denver, and a Professor of child development at Colorado State University, as well as Director of the Early Childhood Center at Metropolitan State College, Director of the Auraria Child Care Center. Moreover, she's been a contributing columnist at the Rocky Mountain News, and a Policy Director at the Office of the Governor.

As a volunteer, Donna has worked with numerous groups that work toward the betterment of children and families in Colorado. The following are just a few of her service oriented endeavors: Donna created the Work and Family Consortium to assist employers in accommodating work and family issues in the work place; she has been a consultant for the State of Colorado, working to help parents and teachers with troubled children; she has lent her grant writing expertise to many non profit organizations; and, finally, she helped establish the Urban Farm at Stapleton which helps inner-city children who live in at-risk neighborhoods in Denver.

Donna is an inspiration for us all and for all these reason she is deserving of the honor of Outstanding Colorado Woman. It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Donna for her dedication and service to her community over the years and congratulate her on this recognition. She has worked hard for her community and State and for that we are all grateful.

COMBAT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2001, I introduced H.R. 190, legislation to

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

deny citizenship to the American-born children of illegal aliens.

The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution states, "all persons born in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens." The Federal Government interprets this to grant automatic citizenship to the children of illegal aliens born in the United States. I believe this is a gross misinterpretation and that there is no constitutional requirement to confer citizenship to the U.S.-born children of illegal aliens. Illegal aliens cannot be subject to the jurisdiction of the United States because they are in the United States without legal authority.

Mr. Speaker, few can dispute that the practice of granting automatic-birthright citizenship to the children of illegal aliens is a great incentive for illegal immigration. Citizen children qualify for welfare and other social services, thus illegal parents receive benefits. This raises serious concerns about the use of public assistance by individuals illegally present in the United States. According to a 1997 General Accounting Office report, in FY95 about \$1.1 billion in Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and Food Stamp benefits were provided to households with an illegal alien parent for the use of his or her citizen child. There can be no mistake that the citizenship grant has significantly contributed to our unprecedented levels of illegal immigration. According to some figures, an estimated 165,000 children are born to illegal aliens in the U.S. annually.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that those individuals who actively defy the laws of the United States by illegal entry or overstaying the terms of their entry should not have the cherished constitutional right to confer citizenship upon their children. As Members of Congress, we have an obligation to ensure that our borders are protected and our immigration laws are followed. Accordingly, I strongly urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 190 to end this injustice.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT TAX CUT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Education Improvement Tax Cut Act. This act, a companion to my Family Education Freedom Act, takes a further step toward returning control over education resources to private citizens by providing a \$3,000 tax credit for donations to scholarship funds to enable low-income children to attend private schools. It also encourages private citizens to devote more of their resources to helping public schools, by providing a \$3,000 tax credit for cash or in-kind donations to public schools to support academic or extra curricular programs.

I need not remind my colleagues that education is one of, if not the, top priority of the American people. After all, many members of Congress have proposed education reforms and a great deal of time is spent debating

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these proposals. However, most of these proposals either expand Federal control over education or engage in the pseudo-federalism of block grants. Many proposals that claim to increase local control over education actually extend Federal power by holding schools "accountable" to Federal bureaucrats and politicians. Of course, schools should be held accountable for their results, but under the United States Constitution, they should be held accountable to parents and school boards not to Federal officials. Therefore, I propose we move in a different direction and embrace true federalism by returning control over the education dollar to the American people.

One of the major problems with centralized control over education funding is that spending priorities set by Washington-based Representatives, staffers, and bureaucrats do not necessarily match the needs of individual communities. In fact, it would be a miracle if spending priorities determined by the wishes of certain politically powerful Representatives or the theories of Education Department functionaries match the priorities of every community in a country as large and diverse as America. Block grants do not solve this problem as they simply allow states and localities to choose the means to reach federally-determined ends.

Returning control over the education dollar for tax credits for parents and for other concerned citizens returns control over both the means and ends of education policy to local communities. People in one community may use this credit to purchase computers, while children in another community may, at last, have access to a quality music program because of community leaders who took advantage of the tax credit contained in this bill.

Children in some communities may benefit most from the opportunity to attend private, parochial, or other religious schools. One of the most encouraging trends in education has been the establishment of private scholarship programs. These scholarship funds use voluntary contributions to open the doors of quality private schools to low-income children. By providing a tax credit for donations to these programs, Congress can widen the educational opportunities and increase the quality of education for all children. Furthermore, privately-funded scholarships raise none of the concerns of state entanglement raised by publicly-funded vouchers.

There is no doubt that Americans will always spend generously on education, the question is, "who should control the education dollar—politicians and bureaucrats or the American people?" Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in placing control of education back in the hands of citizens and local communities by sponsoring the Education Improvement Tax Cut Act.

HONORING LARRY WILLEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Willey, the outgoing